Dear HBI: RPC Project Selection Committee:

On behalf of <Hospital Name>, I strongly support the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) Project, the Healthy Birth Initiative: Reducing Primary Cesareans (HBI: RPC). While cesarean birth is a lifesaving measure for some women, primary cesarean birth in low risk women (NTSV) have been shown to have unwarranted variation in rates across the United States. Higher rates in NTSV cesareans bring higher economic costs and greater risks to the woman and baby, and with every subsequent cesarean birth, the risks increase. This variation and the financial and human costs associated with it represent a significant opportunity for improvement, and our hospital recognizes the continued need to focus on this issue in order to improve patient care. We understand that the support of physiologic birth labor management is a best practice resulting in lower rates of NTSV cesarean births.

To encourage the success of the ACNM HBI: RPC Project, and, as a member of the collaborative I will ensure that our hospital will support the following actions:

* Collecting data on a monthly basis on process and outcome measures specified by the collaborative
* Nursing and provider participation in physiologic birth bundle implementation activities
* Facilitating the creation and update of policies and procedures that support physiologic birth
* Overall project management by a team of nurses, administrators and providers at the hospital to facilitate the success of the project

In addition, I am excited that ACNM’s HBI: RPC’s Steering Committee, consisting of physician, midwife, administrator and nurse thought leaders, has expertise in assisting hospitals on how to best implement reduction of NTSV cesarean quality improvement projects. This panel will help our hospital team navigate the often challenging task of change management at a hospital.

Our hospital also looks forward to working with other hospitals in the Project. Different perspectives on care from hospitals in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey and others across the USA will add to the richness of the collaborative experience and will provide our hospital team with different methods in approaching quality improvement.

I am fully committed to making our staff available to work on this important project at our hospital. We consistently strive to exceed our own expectations for quality and patient safety around postpartum hemorrhage, and this project will enable us to continue along that pathway.

Sincerely,

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